

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BAR-BENCH-MEDIA CONFERENCE

A meeting of the Bar-Bench-Media Conference was held on Monday, June 5, 1994 at 1:00 p.m. in the WHY-TV Building in Wilmington. The meeting was open to the public. Notice of the meeting had been posted. The members of the Conference in attendance were:

Members from the Print New Media

Ms. Tamra Brittingham
Mr. John Taylor
Ms. Rita Farrell
Mr. John Sweeney

Members from the Electronic News Media

Mr. Alan Loudell
Mr. William D. Osborne
Mr. Michael Sigman

Members from the Bench

Judge Jay Paul James

Members from the Bar

Harvey B. Rubenstein, Esquire
Chief Magistrate Patricia Griffin
Rosemary K. Killian, Esquire

William Osborne called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

There was an election of Conference officers. The officers for the 1994-95 year are Harvey Rubenstein, Chair; Tamra Brittingham, Vice Chair; Rosemary Killian, Secretary; and Stephen Taylor, Staff Support.

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The Conference reviewed the Bench-Bar Program presented June 1, 1994, on the proposed Supreme Court Rule on expanded electronic coverage of the courts. Several members of the Conference received feedback including Mike Sigman who had been told that the trial experiment with cameras in the courtroom would be limited to the Superior Court. There was an extended discussion of whether we wanted to take a position on this issue at this time, and the sense of the Conference was that we would wait to take a position when the Court responded to the proposal which had been submitted. Several members of the Conference repeated positive comments they had heard. The Conference discussed the uncertainties that now exist as to technical implementation in the courtroom and it was decided that the existing committee for technical feasibility could be expanded to cover this issue. Rose Killian, Bill Osborne, Mike Sigman and Judge Ridgely were asked to look into the implementation issues and report back.

Several new issues were raised for the Conference's consideration. These included computer access to the courts by media representatives, educational seminars for the benefit of the public and the Bar sponsored by the Conference, and media access to Family Court proceedings. It was decided that we should pursue all of these issues as Conference subjects and that we should give consideration to soliciting input from members of the Bar and from persons knowledgeable on these subjects.

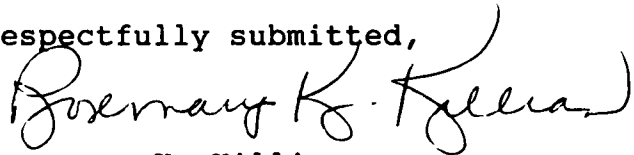
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Consideration was also given to the feasibility of involvement of the Bench-Bar-Media Conference in correctional information issues. The Conference tentatively decided that this was not an appropriate area but agreed to look further into this issue.

A resolution was passed by acclamation to thank Bill Osborne for his service as Chair. "Members of the Bench-Bar-Media Conference wish to thank William Osborne for his tireless efforts on behalf of this Committee and congratulate him on his historic tenure as Chairman."

The next meeting date is to be set by the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rosemary K. Killian". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Rosemary K. Killian
Secretary

Date: June 10, 1994